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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent
appln. of: Thomas Welsh et al.

Serial No.: 09/935,926

Filed: August 23, 2001

For: LINEAR COMPRESSION
LATCH

Examiner: William S. Fee

Art Unit: 3677

Att'y Docket: 195-01

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 35 U.S.C. § 1.56(a) and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, applicants submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware which they believe may be material to the examination of this application in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

Applicants submit copies of the following documents listed on the enclosed Patent and Trademark Office - Form 1449 "List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement."

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), exists. Further, the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against any interest in any manner.

U.S. Patent 4,021,126 discloses a lever-operated latch mechanism for securing a socket portion and a mating shank of axially aligned auger sections of an auger-equipped mining machine. Rotation of a lever moves a pin linearly.

U.S. Patent 4,037,488 discloses a handle mechanism adapted for mounting on a rotatable shaft of a machine tool. A pin, biased to secure an index plate to a shaft, is moved linearly by rotation of an associated handle.

The present invention is believed patentable and unobvious over each of these references individually, or taken in any combination, including combination with art previously made of record.

The individual making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of: an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application.

The Examiner may find the enclosed documents relevant to the invention of the present application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the cited references and to make the cited references of record in the case.

August 14, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Order No. 0790



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